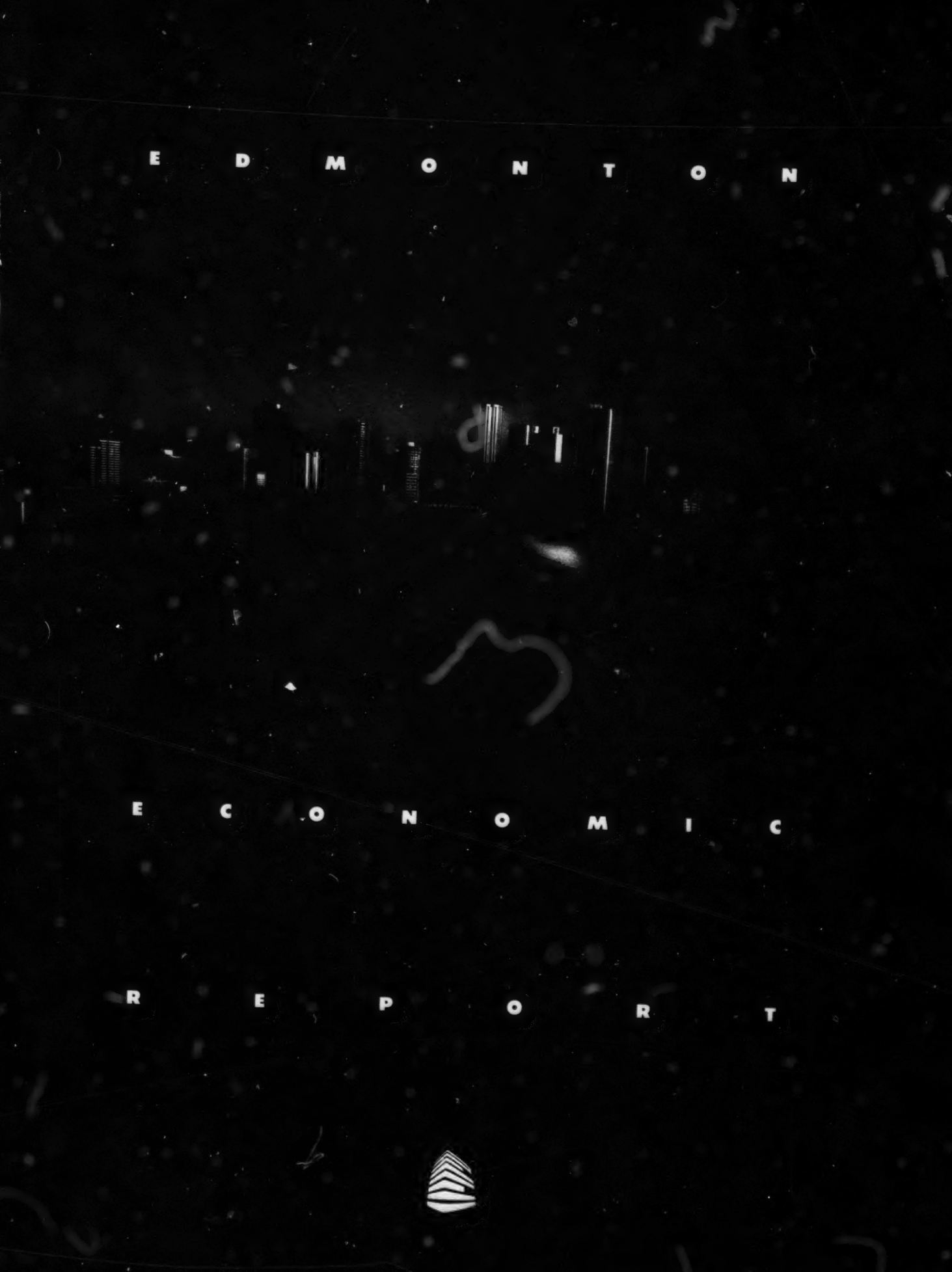
EDMONTON



ECONOMIC REPORT

90-02571/

EDMONTON
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY

The Edmonton Economic Development Authority's mission is the promotion and development of Edmonton's economic growth in a manner consistent with the general economic policies of City Council.

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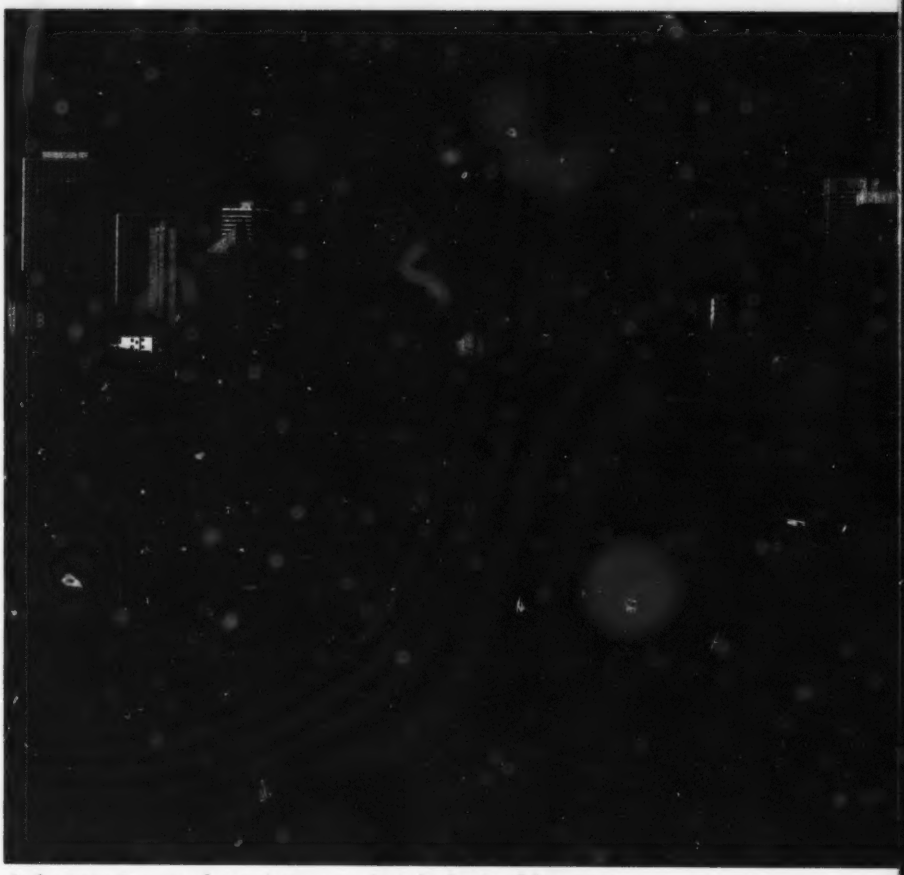

As the strategic centre of extensive resource-based industries, Edmonton is one of Canada's most affluent and growing population centres.

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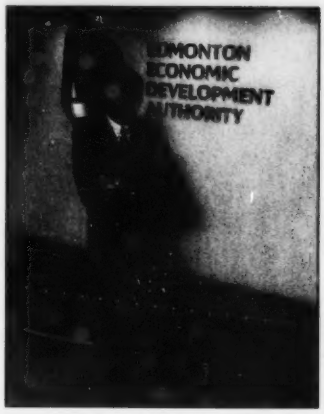
CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



As Chairman of the Edmonton Economic Development Authority, I am pleased to submit the **Edmonton Economic Report**.

Edmonton's economy experienced substantial growth during 1988, a trend which has continued into 1989. In fact, with over $30 billion of new major industrial projects announced for northern Alberta, our city is exceptionally well positioned to take advantage of the many new business and investment opportunities these projects offer.

The recently announced $3.5 billion in forestry development initiatives planned or underway in northern Alberta are but an example of the exciting economic diversification that is taking place in our province.

The city's service sector is a major beneficiary of these forestry initiatives with local firms providing many of the goods and services these new projects require. Two new forestry companies have already established their head offices in Edmonton and others are under consideration.

Metro Edmonton's petrochemical industry has moved into a significant and substantial growth phase with new plant and expansion announcements totalling over $2.5 billion. The following companies and their respective investments include: Chevron Canada Resources - $50 million; Dow Chemical Canada Inc. - $800 million; Canadian Occidental Petroleum Ltd. - $60 million; Du Pont Canada - $120 million; Neste Oy/Petro-Canada Inc. - $300 million; Novacor Chemicals Ltd. - two projects for a total of $700 million; and Shell Canada - $400 million.

More than $13 billion of oil, gas, and oil sands investments are planned for our service area. An additional $11 billion is being allocated for expansion of Alberta's pipeline network - the majority of which is located in northern Alberta. These projects along with record gas sales continue to add to our region's economic vitality.

The approval of the $1.3 billion Bi-Provincial Heavy Oil Upgrader and the pending approval of the $4.1 billion OSLO project will once again provide Edmonton area firms with numerous business opportunities. The federal government's commitment to back these projects is key to their success.

Metro Edmonton's construction activity remains strong. Residential construction has moved ahead dramatically with the sector exhibiting gains of 7.2% over 1987 figures. Forecasts indicate that housing construction will continue to increase as a result of the positive population migration that is presently being experienced by the province.

Employment levels in Metro Edmonton reached an all-time high during 1988. It is expected that employment will continue to remain high as the many industrial projects get underway and become fully operational.

Edmonton's superb educational institutions and facilities add greatly to our community's economic strength and quality of life. The University of Alberta, Canada's second largest university, is a major asset for our city. Its leadership in the fields of medical research, microelectronics, and technology transfer programs is world renowned.

Other facilities like Grant McEwan Community College, the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, and the Westerra Institute of Technology are dedicated to providing the educational programs industry requires.

Edmonton's growing advanced technology community is another critical component that is contributing to the diversification of our region's economy. The recent announcement by Sherritt Gordon Ltd. to move their head office to Edmonton and construct a $140 million advanced industrial materials research and development centre in our region is another plus for our advanced technology community.

It is evident that Edmonton is poised for continued new growth not only as the economic hub of western Canada but also as a major partner in the new Canada/U.S. Free Trade Agreement and as an influential player in international markets. Our city's international business profile was recently enhanced by two major announcements. First, was the start-up of nonstop air service between Edmonton and Tokyo, Japan by Canadian Airlines International Ltd. The second was the commencement of air freight service by Cargolux Airlines International. The firm has selected Edmonton as its headquarters for all Canadian activities west of Ontario. These key international transportation initiatives will ensure that Edmonton area firms will have readily available and competitively priced access to the Pacific Rim and European markets for their goods and services.

Edmonton also offers an exceptional quality of life with rich cultural activities, a beautiful river valley, and outstanding sports and recreational facilities. The city's resource rich location, extensive population base, and its entrepreneurial spirit combine to offer its business community an abundance of unique opportunities.

One of the Authority's roles is to assist business and industry assess the Edmonton economy. Metro Edmonton has an impressive list of locational advantages to offer. The Authority is ready to work with individuals and companies, in confidence, providing information concerning Edmonton and our market area. If we can be of service to you, please contact us.

Robert W. Rosen
Chairman

LOCATION

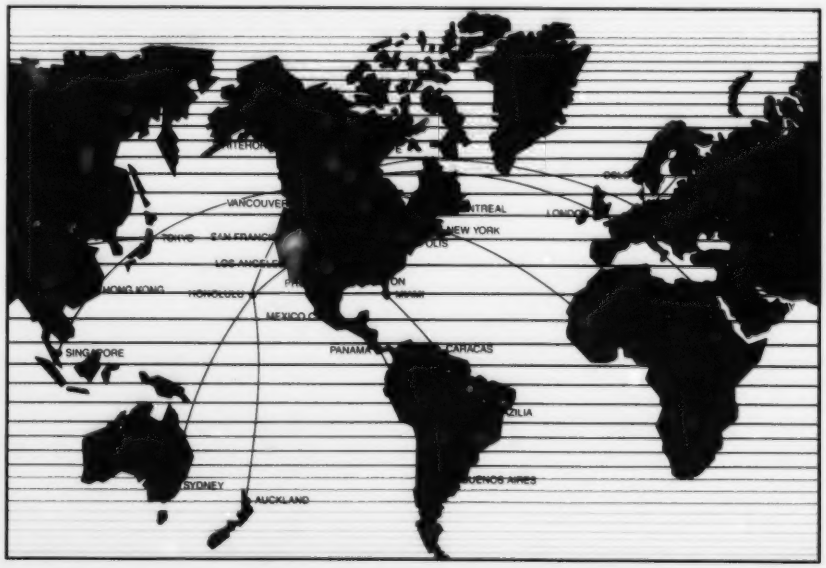
Edmonton is located at the geographic centre of Alberta and western Canada. This strategic position is the reason the city has many advantages as a major corporate, manufacturing, transportation, and distribution hub for northern and western Canada as well as the northwestern United States.

Nestled on the banks of the North Saskatchewan River, Edmonton is noted for its spectacular river valley which contributes to the city's exceptional quality of life.

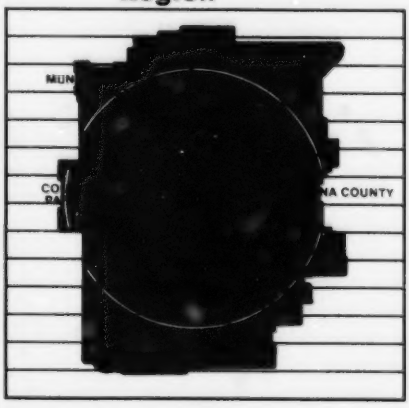
Although Edmonton's traditional strengths lie in extensive oil, gas, and other energy resource industries, its economy has diversified, particularly in the world-wide markets of forestry, textiles, and advanced technology. The city's primary service area extends from central and northern Alberta to the Northwest Territories, northern British Columbia, and northwestern Saskatchewan.

Edmonton offers an exceptional quality of life with rich cultural activities, a beautiful river valley and outstanding sports and recreational facilities.

Map 1 – Edmonton in the World



Map 2 – Metro Edmonton Region



Metro Edmonton Region

- Metro Edmonton (Edmonton) Sub Region
- Edmonton Proper
- County and Municipal District Boundaries
- 48 kilometres (30 miles) radius
- 45 minutes travel time from downtown Edmonton

NATURAL RESOURCES

Resource development is a mainstay of Edmonton's and western Canada's economy. Vast resource wealth and expanding domestic and international markets nurture this development.

Forestry

Northern Alberta has one of the world's largest remaining untapped forest resources. This sector is now providing Edmonton's business community with new opportunities for diversification, with ready markets in central Canada, the United States, and the Pacific Rim. Over $3.5 billion worth of forestry projects are scheduled or underway in northern Alberta. Edmonton, with its superb location, energetic business community, and excellent labour force, will be a principal beneficiary of these projects.

Construction for the following projects has either already begun or is scheduled to begin in 1989 with completion dates estimated between 1990 and 1995.

Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries Inc. is constructing a $1.3 billion pulp and paper complex in the Athabasca-Lac La Biche region, 135 km (84 mi) north of Edmonton. This will be the largest single-line pulp mill in the world. Alberta-Pacific has located its head office in Edmonton.

The Peace River Pulp Company (a division of Daishowa Canada Co. Ltd.) is constructing a $500 million hardwood pulp mill north of Peace River.

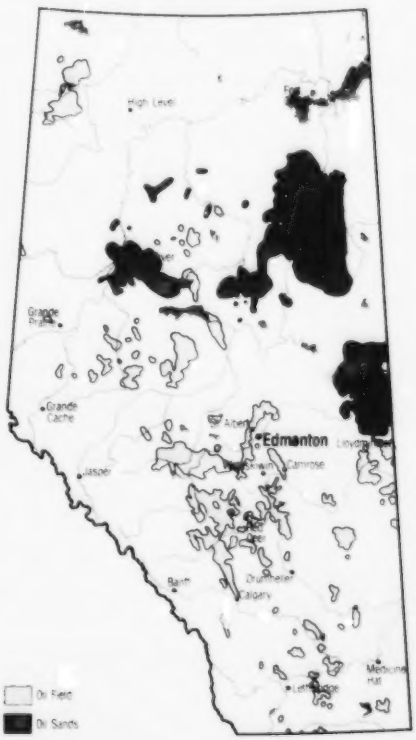
Procter & Gamble Cellulose is spending $400 million expanding their Grande Prairie pulp mill, 350 km (219 mi) northwest of Edmonton and constructing a new sawmill in Manning, 200 km (125 mi) further north. These projects will more than double the company's production.

Alberta Newsprint Company Ltd. is constructing a $360 million pulp and newsprint mill west of Whitecourt, 177 km (106 mi) northwest of Edmonton and Millar Western Pulp Ltd. has built a $200 million chemi-thermomechanical pulp mill also near Whitecourt. Alberta Newsprint Company has also established its head office in Edmonton.

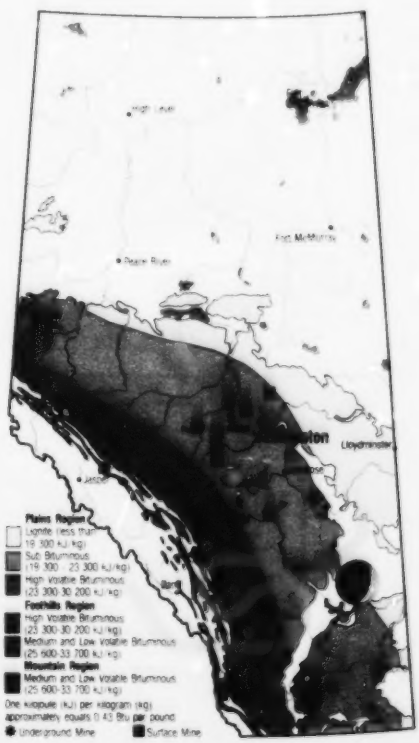
Over $3.5 billion worth of new pulp, paper and lumber projects are scheduled or underway in northern Alberta. Edmonton, because of its strategic location to these projects, will be a major beneficiary of these forestry initiatives.

Map 3 – Forests in Alberta

Map 4 – Oil Fields and Oil Sands in Alberta



Map 5 – Coal in Alberta


High Level
Fort McMurray
Peace River
Grande Prairie
Edmonton
Lloydminster
Jasper
Camrose
Plains Region
Lignite (less than 19 300 kJ/kg)
Sub-Bituminous (19 300 - 23 300 kJ/kg)
High Volatile Bituminous (23 300-30 200 kJ/kg)
Foothills Region
High Volatile Bituminous (23 300-30 200 kJ/kg)
Medium and Low Volatile Bituminous (25 600-33 700 kJ/kg)
Mountain Region
Medium and Low Volatile Bituminous (25 600-33 700 kJ/kg)
One kilojoule (kJ) per kilogram (kg) approximately equals 0.43 Btu per pound
Underground Mine
Surface Mine

Alberta Energy Company is building a chemi-thermomechanical pulp mill worth $168 million at Slave Lake, 200 km (125 mi) northwest of Edmonton. This mill is the fourth major forestry project at Slave Lake.

Weldwood of Canada Ltd. is nearing completion of $370 million worth of expansions at their pulp and paper mill at Hinton, 286 km (172 mi) west of Edmonton.

Other projects include a $16 million sawmill at Lac La Biche, 100 km (60 mi) from Edmonton to be built by Northern Forest Industries Ltd., and a $32 million project at Rocky Mountain House, 219 km (131 mi) southwest of Edmonton, to be built by Sunpine Forest Products Ltd.

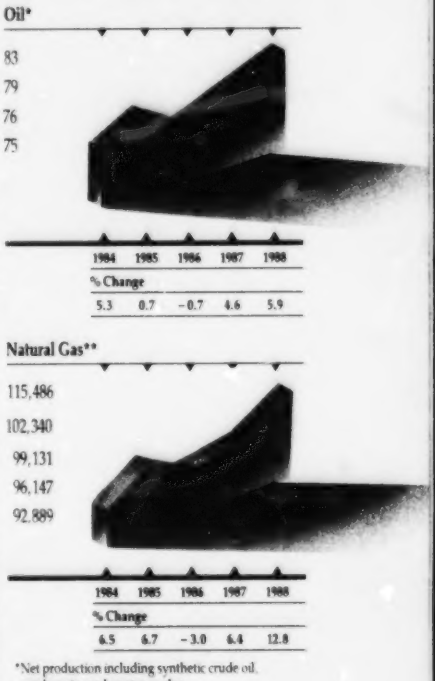
This unprecedented growth in northern Alberta forestry projects will clearly benefit Edmonton by adding diversification, vitality, and international investment to its economy. Edmonton has emerged as western Canada's new forestry centre.

Conventional Oil and Gas

Edmonton's importance to western Canada's oil and gas industry is illustrated by the fact that over 80% of Canada's oil reserves are in Alberta and over 80% of the producing oil wells in the province are in the Edmonton service area.

Remaining established reserves of conventional crude oil in Alberta at year end 1988 were 592.9 million cubic metres (3.7 billion barrels). Remaining established reserves of marketable natural gas were 1.63 trillion cubic metres (57.8 trillion cubic feet). Gross revenues from oil and gas production during 1988 totalled nearly $15 billion.

Graph 1
Alberta Oil and Gas Production 1984 – 1988
(millions of cubic metres)



*Net production including synthetic crude oil, condensate, and pentanes plus
**Raw gas production
Source:
Alberta Bureau of Statistics - Alberta Statistical Review
Energy Resources Conservation Board, Alberta

Table 1
Alberta Petroleum Industry Expenditures 1984 – 1988
($ millions)

	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988*
Exploration	1,602.6	1,848.8	1,470.2	1,430.8	1,851.3
Development	996.9	1,296.1	983.1	883.1	1,203.7
Land	790.2	1,021.1	447.3	841.1	654.7
Producing Facilities	958.6	1,320.5	1,082.4	991.7	1,028.9
Producing Costs	2,665.5	3,280.9	3,259.6	3,131.0	3,100.7
Gas Plants	180.5	263.3	181.0	162.3	186.7
Royalties [a]	5,958.1	6,005.4	3,373.7	2,648.5	2,340.2
Other [b]	206.9	**	**	**	**
Total	13,359.3	15,036.1	10,797.3	10,088.5	10,366.2

* **Oilweek** estimate
** Effective 1985, all taxes except income taxes are included in "Producing Costs." Source: **Oilweek**, Annual Review and Forecast, 1989
Note: (a) Includes mineral tax and other charges (b) Excludes interest expense

Table 2
Alberta Oil Sands Expenditures 1984 – 1988
($ millions)

	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988*
Capital Expenditures [a]	510.3	1,131.5	612.8	539.5	625.0
Operating Costs [b]	1,064.3	1,225.6	1,208.3	1,146.7	1,152.0
Royalties	179.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total	1,753.6	2,357.1	1,821.1	1,686.2	1,777.0

* **Oilweek** estimate
Note: (a) Includes exploratory and delineation drilling, research and development, fixed installations, machinery and equipment, housing and pollution control equipment.
(b) Includes taxes, administration expense, land acquisition and retention, reclamation costs, and other operating outlays.
Source: Canadian Petroleum Association

Oil Sands

Edmonton is the major service and distribution centre for the Alberta oil sands, which is the largest oil sands crude bitumen deposit in the world. These deposits contain an estimated 267 billion cubic metres (1.7 trillion barrels) of in-place reserves.

Two oil sands extraction and processing plants currently operating in the Athabasca deposit near Fort McMurray use surface mining techniques. The 1988 combined throughput of these plants averaged more than 31,700 cubic metres (200,000 barrels) per day of high grade synthetic crude oil. Syncrude Canada Ltd. and Suncor Inc. have planned expansions worth over $4 billion.

Numerous other major oil companies and consortiums are also pursuing oil sands projects ranging from pilot plants and experimental projects to large-scale commercial developments and expansions. OSLO (Other Six Leases Operation) has announced a $4.1 billion oil sands mining and upgrading project at Fort McMurray. Husky Oil Operations Limited, in partnership with the provincial governments of Alberta and Saskatchewan and the federal government, has completed Phase I engineering and has begun construction of the $1.27 billion Bi-Provincial Heavy Oil Upgrader at Lloydminster. Other oil sands projects under construction include BP Canada Inc./Petro-Canada Inc. at Wolf Lake, Esso Resources Canada Ltd. at Cold Lake, and Shell Canada Limited at Virginia Hills. In addition, Amoco, PanCanadian, Canadian Hunter, Alberta Energy, Sulpetro, and Solv-Ex are a few of the many other companies involved in oil sands projects.

Coal

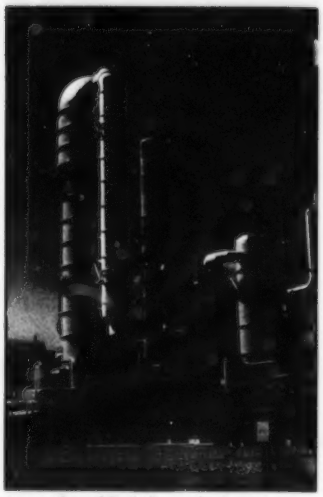
Approximately three-quarters of the recoverable coal reserves in Canada are situated in Alberta, with the majority of them in proximity to Edmonton. In-place coal resources total more than 79 billion tonnes. Thirty-two billion tonnes are recoverable by surface technology and underground methods.

In 1988, subbituminous coal production totalled 20 million tonnes. Bituminous coal production reached 13.4 million tonnes. Coal exports in 1988 included 1.9 million tonnes to other provinces and more than 7.1 million tonnes to other countries.

Electrical utilities in Alberta continue to use coal as the primary fuel in their largest power generating plants. Electric energy generation coupled with the growing demands of Pacific Rim countries for metallurgical coal assures long-term growth for the development of this natural resource.

Construction is now complete on Phase I of Edmonton Power's Genesee thermal power plant. The $1.3 billion plant will bring 400 megawatts into the Alberta power grid in 1989. Phase II of the project will make an additional 400 megawatts available in 1991.

Coal Research Centre Devon has been established on the outskirts of Edmonton. This $17 million facility houses researchers from the Alberta Research Council; the federal department of Energy, Mines and Resources; and other agencies.



More than $24 billion of oil, gas, oil sands, and pipeline investments are planned for Edmonton's service area.

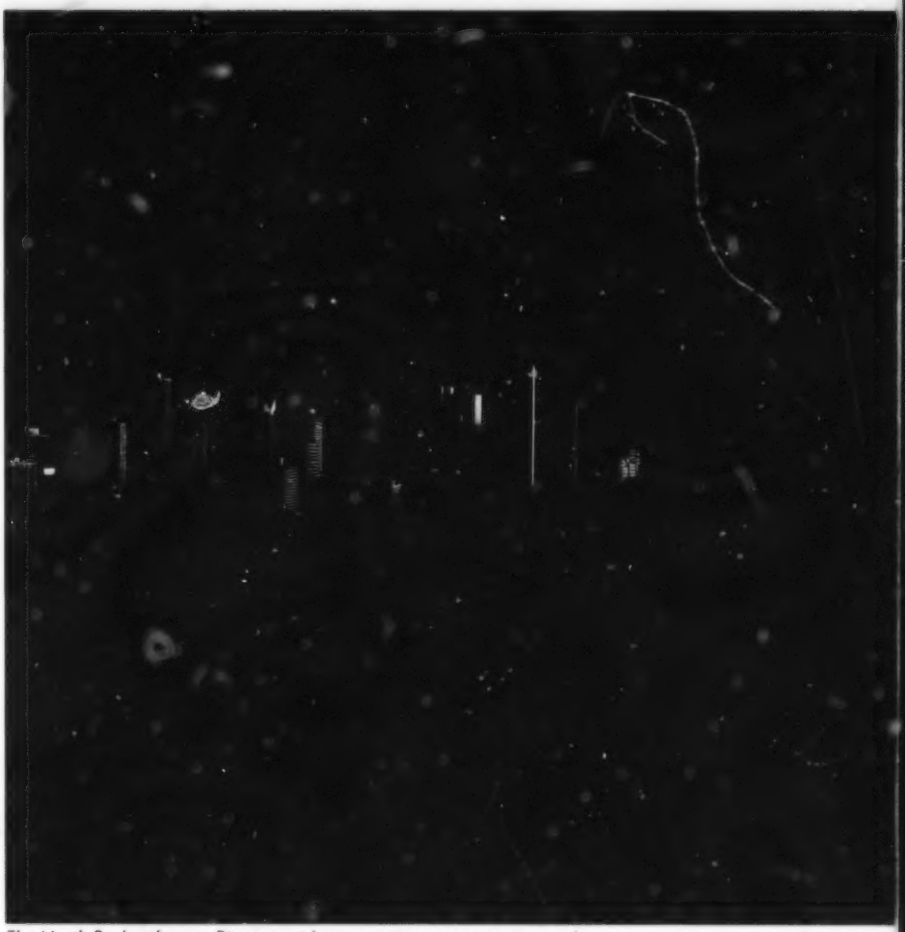
Agriculture

Agriculture remains an important component of the Alberta economy. Farm area in the province totals more than 20.6 million hectares (51 million acres). Some 12.9 million hectares (31.9 million acres) are used in crop, livestock, and other agricultural production with another 7.7 million hectares (19.1 million acres) available for future use.

Farm operations in Alberta are large and capital intensive with an average size of over 350 hectares (880 acres) and an average capital investment of almost $500,000. Alberta is one of the most productive agricultural regions in the world, making it very competitive in world markets.

Farm cash receipts for 1988 are estimated at over $4.4 billion. Grain crops – mainly wheat, barley and canola – account for almost $2 billion. Livestock sales and livestock products totalled over $2 billion.

The Edmonton market area contains over two-thirds of the province's farms and the majority of Alberta's hog and poultry production. This important agricultural sector provides a base for Edmonton's third-largest manufacturing activity - the food and beverage industry.



The North Saskatchewan River provides convenient access to an ample supply of water for industrial and recreational use.

Minerals

Edmonton has ready access to an abundant supply of minerals for construction and industrial use. Resources in the immediate vicinity of the city include industrial sand, brick clay, lightweight aggregate, limestone marl, stoneware clay, and bentonite. Plants have been established to produce cement, pottery, and fibreglass products.

Water

More than 90% of the water flow in Alberta is in the northern part of the province, which is Edmonton's service area. The city, located on the banks of the North Saskatchewan River, provides easy access to an ample supply of high-quality water.

The Edmonton market area contains over two-thirds of the province's farms.

INDUSTRY

Alberta's natural resources and Edmonton's population base offer exceptional potential for business opportunities. In the current era of more open trade, Edmonton is, more than ever, a logical location for new or expanded commercial and industrial ventures.

Manufacturing

The economic growth potential of local, provincial, national, and international markets provide an exciting diversity of opportunity and an increasingly affluent market for manufactured products.

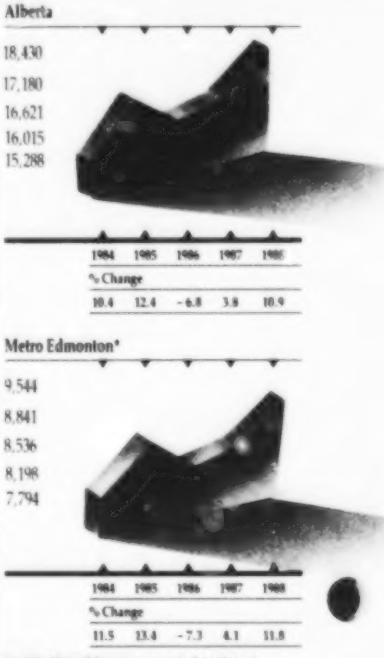
In 1988, Metro Edmonton manufacturing shipments were valued at more than $9.5 billion. With more than 60 industrial parks in the area, land zoned for industrial use totals approximately 12,000 hectares (more than 30,000 acres).

Petroleum and Coal

The petroleum and coal industries have been prime factors in the economic growth experienced in Alberta and in particular the Metro Edmonton region. Petroleum and coal products made up Edmonton's largest manufacturing sector in 1988, accounting for nearly $2.5 billion in shipments. This sector represents over 25% of the metro area's total manufacturing production and includes facilities for propane, butane, pentane, and sulphur production.

Edmonton is recognized as the oil and gas production, refining, and distribution centre for Canada. Over 85% of Alberta's petroleum products are processed in Metro Edmonton refineries.

Graph 3
Value of Manufacturing Shipments
1984 – 1988
($ millions)



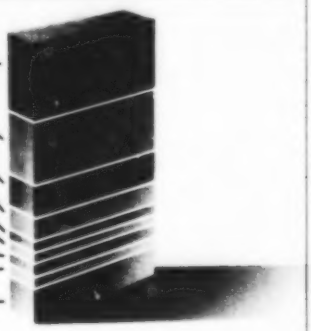
In 1988, Metro Edmonton accounted for 56% of Alberta's manufacturing output.

*Edmonton Economic Development Authority estimates

Source:
Alberta Bureau of Statistics - Alberta Statistical Review
Statistics Canada - Catalogue #31-001, #31-209

Graph 2
Metro Edmonton
Manufactured Goods By Major Sectors – 1988*
($ thousands)

	% Change - 1988	Value
Petroleum & Coal	-12.2	2,450,499
Chemicals & Chemical Products	27.2	2,110,806
Food and Beverage	17.2	1,601,527
Primary Metal	28.8	741,170
Metal Fabricating	29.7	526,655
Machinery Industries	37.7	422,361
Printing, Publishing & Allied Industries	16.4	365,607
Nonmetallic Mineral Products	2.5	249,962
Miscellaneous & NES (a)	23.3	1,075,776
Total	11.8	9,544,363



* Edmonton Economic Development Authority estimates

Note:
(a) Miscellaneous and NES category includes: Rubber & Plastics, Leather Industries, Textile & Clothing Industries, Wood Industries, Furniture & Fixtures, Paper & Allied Industries, Transport Equipment, Electrical Products, and Miscellaneous Products.

Source:
Alberta Bureau of Statistics - Alberta Statistical Review
Statistics Canada - Catalogue #31-001, #31-209

In 1988, Metro Edmonton manufacturing shipments were valued at more than $9.5 billion, an increase of 11.8% over 1987 figures.

Chemicals and Chemical Products

This sector produced $2.1 billion of shipments in 1988, an increase of 27% over 1987 totals. Chemicals and chemical products represented over 22% of Edmonton's total manufacturing shipments. Edmonton's petrochemical industry has seen world-scale development in recent years and new expansion programs are planned.

The city's petrochemical industry has moved into a major growth phase with new plant and expansion announcements totalling over $2.5 billion. The following companies and their respective investments include: Chevron Canada Resources - $50 million; Dow Chemical Canada Inc. - $800 million; Canadian Occidental Petroleum Ltd. - $60 million; Du Pont Canada - $120 million; Neste Oy/Petro-Canada Inc. - $300 million; Novacor Chemicals Ltd. - two projects for a total of $700 million; and Shell Canada - $400 million.

Food and Beverage

Food and beverage industries constitute Edmonton's third largest manufacturing sector with 1988 shipments totalling $1.6 billion, an increase of 17% over 1987 totals. The sector represents almost 17% of Metro Edmonton's total manufacturing production. Food and beverage industries will remain prominent in Edmonton with the expansion underway in the Alberta, Canadian, American, and international markets.

The recently built $8.6 million Alberta Food Processing Development Centre is available to Edmonton area businesses to test new products or processing methods in a specialized environment. The companies can use this facility and not have to interrupt their own plant operation.

Primary Metal

The value of primary metal manufacturing was $741 million in 1988, an increase of close to 30% over 1987 figures. Primary metals will continue to exhibit strong growth as major industrial projects develop.

The drive to increased recycling is also having a favorable impact on steel making in Edmonton. All steel made in Alberta is from recycled steel.

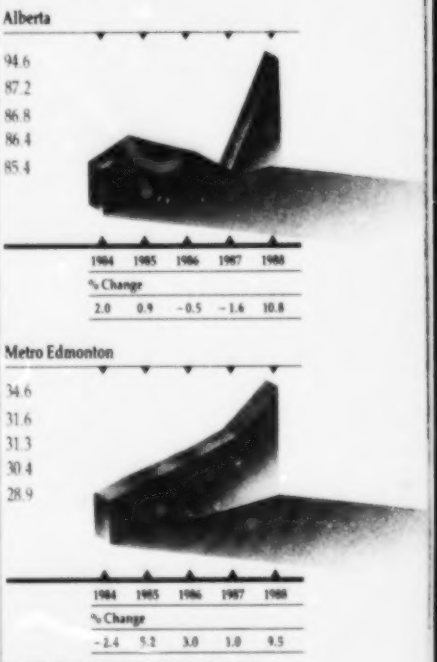
Metal Fabricating

Metal fabricating has had a high growth rate over the last 20 years particularly in support of oil and gas exploration; construction of pipelines; and more recently, major project developments in the forestry and petrochemical sectors. Production in the metal fabricating industry was an estimated $527 million in 1988 - an increase of nearly 30% over 1987 figures.

Machinery Industries

The demand for products such as oilfield, commercial, industrial, construction, mining, and forestry equipment resulted in more than $422 million in shipments for machinery industries in 1988. This sector experienced an increase of nearly 38% in shipments over 1987 totals.

Graph 4
Manufacturing Employment 1984 – 1988
(thousands)



In 1988, Metro Edmonton accounted for 37% of Alberta's manufacturing employment.

Source
Alberta Bureau of Statistics - Alberta Statistical Review
Statistics Canada - Labour Force Survey, 1989 revision

Metro Edmonton's petrochemical industry continues to expand. This sector produced $2.1 billion of shipments in 1988, an increase of 27% over 1987 totals.

Printing, Publishing, and Allied Industries

These industry sectors accounted for $366 million in shipments in 1988 - an increase of 16% over 1987 totals. They continue to exhibit strong growth and will provide new investment opportunities in the future.

Nonmetallic Mineral Products

Almost $250 million of nonmetallic mineral products were manufactured in 1988, including cement, concrete, glass, and other materials commonly used in construction.

Advanced Technologies

Edmonton has emerged as one of North America's most progressive advanced technology centres. The city has attracted numerous advanced technology enterprises due to its enviable array of research institutions, post-secondary educational facilities, and quality of life. Edmonton firms are involved in world class development of medical technologies, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, specialty chemicals, lasers, electronics, instrumentation, computers, and aerospace industries.

The Alberta government has always displayed a strong commitment to research and development. This commitment was reaffirmed when the department of Alberta Technology, Research and Telecommunications (TRT) was formed in 1986 to promote advanced technology. This department's mandate is to encourage research, development, and the commercialization of innovative technologies. TRT also works with industry and academia to create a positive, thriving environment for technology-intensive industries. There has been rapid development of these goals and Edmonton is a leader in ongoing and new advanced technology initiatives.

Alberta Government Telephones (AGT), Canada's third largest telecommunications company generating over one billion dollars in annual revenue, is headquartered in Edmonton. AGT, in conjunction with the University of Alberta, the Government of Alberta, Bell-Northern Research, LSI Logic Corporation and 'edmonton telephones' sponsors the Alberta Telecommunications Research Centre (ATRC). This facility carries on advanced research in fibre optics and telecommunications network management.

AGT is also working with Athabasca University in the development of prototype systems to deliver educational programs via satellite.

Acting as an important catalyst between Edmonton's many advanced technology institutions and the private sector is the Advanced Technology Project (ATP), a joint venture between the Edmonton Council for Advanced Technology and the Edmonton Economic Development Authority. ATP acts as a liaison in indentifying technologies and opportunities for advanced technology companies and then matching individuals and companies to technical, management, marketing, financial, and educational resources.

The Alberta Research Council (ARC), Canada's oldest and largest provincial research organization, is headquartered in Edmonton and employs over 500 people in the metro area. The ARC promotes technology development, responds to the needs of the private sector, and conducts applied research. The ARC's $65 million laboratory and research complex houses a $10 million biotechnology pilot plant as well as other research and testing laboratories. Also located at the ARC is the Electronics Test Centre, which is the only facility in the Pacific Northwest with the capability of testing customers' products to meet U.S. government and military specifications.

The University of Alberta, located in Edmonton, is a major Canadian research and educational centre. As well as conducting substantial advanced technology research, Canada's second largest university is a major centre of

Edmonton has emerged as one of North America's most progressive and diversified advanced technology centres.

technology transfer ventures. The University has close to 25,500 full-time students.

The University also houses the Alberta Microelectronic Centre, which contains a fabrication facility that specializes in custom-designed silicon chips. Other organizations located at the University are the Centre for Frontier Engineering Research (C-FER), which solves engineering problems particular to cold climate energy development and the Alberta Centre for Machine Intelligence and Robotics, which provides a specialized environment for basic and applied research in machine intelligence and robotics.

Three other major players in the province's research network are the Alberta Oil Sands Technology and Research Authority (AOSTRA), the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research (AHFMR), and the recently announced WESTAIM, a major advanced industrial materials research and development facility being operated by Sherritt Gordon Ltd.

Edmonton based AOSTRA's mandate is to provide the private sector and research organizations with financial incentives to develop petroleum technology. AOSTRA also promotes education and training in oil sands development.

AHFMR, with its head office in Edmonton, has contributed $200 million directly to the scientific community to support research in a variety of areas. It has produced a medical research milieu unmmatched in the world.

WESTAIM, Metro Edmonton's most recent addition to the city's growing advanced technology community, will assist local firms with their entry into the highly specialized field of advanced industrial materials.

Additional advanced technology organizations located in Edmonton and area include: the Alberta Laser Institute, which helps industry adapt laser technology, enhance existing production, and facilitate new product development; the Alberta Telecommunications Research Centre, which works with industry on joint research and development in telecommunications; the Coal Research Centre Devon, near Edmonton, which develops and implements new technologies to enhance the competitiveness and marketability of the province's coal reserves; the Alberta Environmental Centre in Vegreville, east of Edmonton, which is Canada's first interdepartmental, interdisciplinary environmental research and service agency; and the Research Division of Syncrude Canada Ltd., which is the province's largest private sector research facility.

Furthermore, Edmonton is also the location of Canada's fastest growing advanced technology park. The Edmonton Research Park is a 130 ha (320 acre) research and technology community located adjacent to the Alberta Research Council. The 4,000 sq m (43,000 sq ft) Advanced Technology Centre is located at the entrance to the Park. This facility assists in the formation and growth of technology-based enterprises in their early stages of development.

Edmonton is the location of Canada's fastest growing advanced technology park.

RETAIL TRADE

Expenditures on retail goods in Metro Edmonton were valued at $5.4 billion and are now among the highest of all Canadian metropolitan areas. Growth of the retail industry in Edmonton amounted to 7.6% in 1988. The five-year average annual growth is 7.8%.

Metro Edmonton offers over 1.5 million sq m (16 million sq ft) of retail space in 20 major malls and a well-developed downtown core. West Edmonton Mall, with over 483,000 sq m (5.2 million sq ft), is the city's premiere retail showcase. With over 800 stores, the mall is the world's largest indoor shopping and entertainment complex.

Several new projects were completed in Edmonton's downtown shopping district during 1988. In April, Manufacturers Life opened their 18,500 sq m (200,000 sq ft) ManuLife Place West, a two-level retail mall with three levels of underground parking.

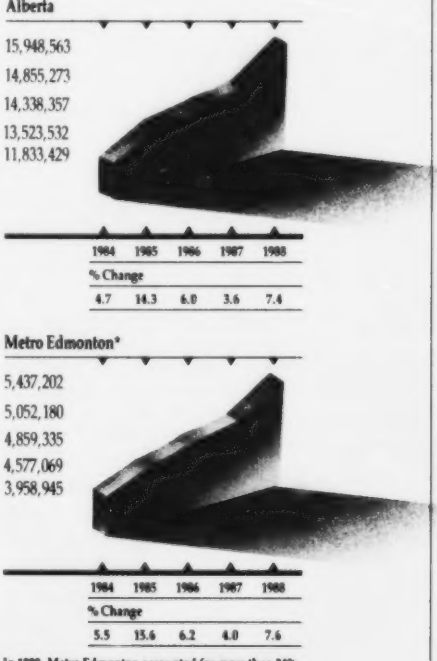
Trizec Equities and the Government of Canada cut the ribbon on Canada Place in May, 1988. The federal government office complex houses 29 departments with approximately 3,000 employees. The $150 million facility includes two levels of commercial space.

In August 1988, Oxford Development Group opened an additional 6,000 sq m (65,000 sq ft) of retail space in Edmonton Centre and Triple Five completed Phase II of Eaton Centre. The latter project included 75 retail stores on three levels with movie theatres on a fourth level. Current development of the downtown retail area is continuing at a steady pace. CityCentre, Phase I, a two-storey retail mall with three levels of underground parking is currently being erected by Olympia and York in conjunction with their 27-storey office tower. The $60 million complex is scheduled to open in 1990 with future plans for another office tower and additional retail space.

Stewart Green Properties will start construction of Hudson's Bay Galleria during 1989. The $60 million redevelopment of the historic Jasper Avenue Bay store will include a 15,000 sq m (160,000 sq ft) Bay with 10,700 sq m (115,000 sq ft) of galleria on four levels and is scheduled for completion in 1991.

Future plans for Edmonton's downtown include a recent proposal for a 4.5 ha (11 acre), $160 million Old Towne Market submitted by the Edmonton Downtown Development Corporation. This organization was recently established to ensure the efficient development of Edmonton's central business district and does so by assisting with the coordination of all downtown projects.

Graph 5
Value of Retail Trade
1984 – 1988
($ thousands)

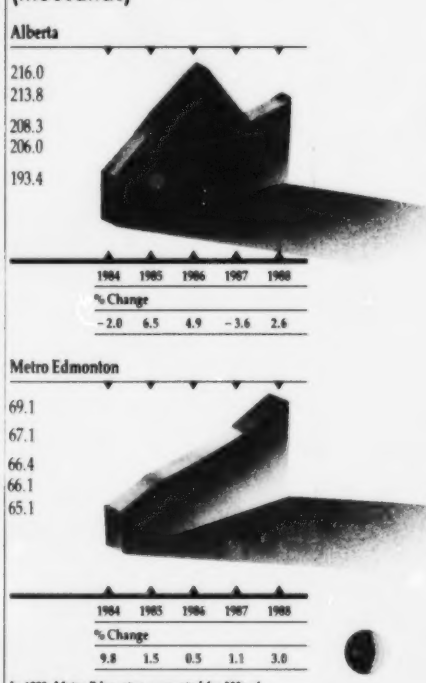


In 1988, Metro Edmonton accounted for more than 34% of Alberta's retail trade.

*Edmonton Economic Development Authority estimates

Source:
Alberta Bureau of Statistics - Alberta Statistical Review
Statistics Canada - Catalogue #63-007

Graph 6
Wholesale and Retail Trade Employment
1984 – 1988
(thousands)



In 1988, Metro Edmonton accounted for 32% of Alberta's wholesale and retail trade employment.

Source:
Alberta Bureau of Statistics - Alberta Statistical Review
Statistics Canada - Labour Force Survey, 1989 revision

Metro Edmonton's retail sales are among the highest of all Canadian metropolitan areas.

CONSTRUCTION

Metro Edmonton's building permits totalled more than $615 million in 1988. Residential permits were 48% of the total, commercial 30%, industrial 9%, and institutional 13%.

Construction prospects for 1989 are positive for Edmonton as most sectors have a number of ongoing and planned projects. Strong residential construction activity will be enhanced by several apartment building developments. Some of the projects being developed are the McKennen Senior Citizens Apartment on 100 Avenue, the Horizon Village highrise project on Jasper Avenue, and the Hawkridge project on 105 Street. There are also others being developed on 109 Street, 95 Avenue, 81 Avenue, and 85 Street.

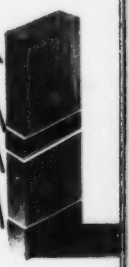
In addition to steady retail construction in the downtown core, other commercial developments are fueling increased construction. Olympia and York expect to complete their 27-storey office tower in 1990. The new $18 million four-storey Edmonton Journal Building is also under construction and will be completed late in 1990. The $3.4 million Citadel Theatre expansion will be finished during 1989 as will $3.5 million worth of renovations to the Westin Hotel. Elsewhere in the city, commercial developments include a major expansion to the Northlands Coliseum, additional retail developments at Kensington Crossing and Palisades Square, a Kidsland Mall on Calgary Trail, and a major expansion at Sunwapta Broadcasting.

Institutional construction will be highlighted by a new City Hall which is being constructed on the current city hall site. In addition to this, the city will be upgrading the Rossdale Water Treatment Plant, investing nearly $2 million at the Goldbar plant, and continuing with the $143 million Light Rail Transit (LRT) expansion.

Over the next three years, several hospitals will undergo expansions and renovations. The Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital is currently being replaced by a new $50 million structure and the Misericordia Hospital and the Cross Cancer Institute are undergoing $19 million and $78 million expansions respectively. Later in 1989, the Sturgeon General Hospital in St. Albert will start a $32 million replacement and expansion program and the Fort Saskatchewan General Hospital will proceed with $2 million in renovations and expansion. During 1990 and 1991, the Royal Alexandra Hospitals will add a $50 million diagnostic and treatment wing, St. Joseph's Auxiliary Hospital will proceed with a $13 million replacement, the Charles Camsell Hospital will spend $12 million for upgrading, and a $4 million Chinatown Multilevel Care Centre will be developed.

Graph 7
Metro Edmonton* Value of Building Permits – 1988
($ thousands)

	% Change - 1988	Value
Residential	7.2	294,849
Industrial	40.9	55,215
Commercial	– 17.4	185,750
Institutional	143.1	79,652
Total	7.7	615,466



In 1988, Metro Edmonton accounted for 26% of Alberta's building permits.

* Edmonton Economic Development Authority estimates

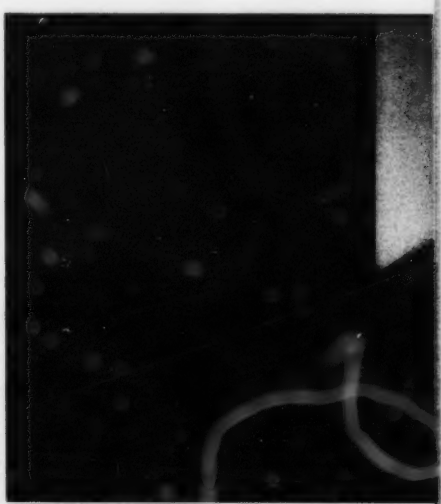
Source:
Statistics Canada - Catalogue #64-203

Table 3
Dwelling Starts & Completions 1984 – 1988

	Alberta		Metro Edmonton*		% Metro Edm. Starts of Alberta	% Metro Edm. Compl. of Alberta
Year	Starts	Compl.	Starts	Compl.		
1984	7,295	12,057	2,536	4,788	34.8	39.7
1985	8,337	7,517	2,665	2,507	32.0	33.4
1986	8,462	9,172	2,695	2,859	31.8	31.2
1987	10,790	9,334	3,693	3,262	34.2	34.9
1988	11,360	11,201	3,988	3,570	35.1	31.9

* Edmonton Economic Development Authority estimates

Source: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation – Housing Statistics



Metro Edmonton building permits totalled over $615 million in 1988, an increase of 7.7% over 1987 figures.

Table 4
Selected Major Industrial Projects in the Edmonton Market Area*

Sector	Company	Location	Construction Period	Project Value ($ millions)
Oil/Gas/Oil Sands	Amoco Canada Petroleum Co.Ltd.	Elk Point	1988 - tba	300
	Amoco Canada Petroleum et al	Primrose Lake	tba - tba	100
	Amoco Canada Petroleum et al	Lindbergh	tba - tba	158
	BP Canada Inc./Petro-Canada Inc.	Wolf Lake	1987 - 1989	200
	Esso Resources Canada Ltd.	Cold Lake	1987 - 1989	325
	Husky Oil Operations Limited et al	Lloydminster	1989 - 1992	1,270
	Husky Oil Operations Limited	Lloydminster	1992 - 2016	900
	OSLO (Other Six Leases Operation)	Fort McMurray	1992 - 1997	4,100
	PanCanadian Petroleum Limited	Elk Point	1987 - 2002	90
	Petro-Canada Inc.	Edmonton	1989 - 1990	82
	Petro-Canada Inc. et al	Brazeau River	1988 - 1989	67
	Shell Canada Limited	Virginia Hills	1988 - 1989	127
	Shell Canada Limited	Peace River	1988 - tba	570
	Shell Canada Limited	Caroline	1989 - 1991	600
	Shell Canada Limited et al	Bearberry	1989 - 1990	65
	Solv-Ex Corporation	Fort MacKay	1991 - 1993	200
	Suncor Inc.	Fort McMurray	1988 - 1991	200
	Suncor Inc.	Burnt Lake	1988 - tba	330
	Syncrude Canada Ltd.	Fort McMurray	tba - tba	4,000
Forestry	Alberta Energy Company Ltd.	Slave Lake	1989 - 1990	168
	Alberta Newsprint Company	Whitecourt	1988 - 1990	360
	Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries Inc.	Athabasca	1989 - 1995	1,300
	Peace River Pulp Company	Peace River	1988 - 1990	500
	Procter & Gamble Cellulose	Grande Prairie	1989 - 1993	400
	Weldwood of Canada Limited	Hinton	1987 - 1990	370
Petrochemicals	Canadian Occidental Petroleum Ltd.	Bruderheim	1990 - 1991	60
	Chevron Canada Resources	Fort Saskatchewan	1989 - 1990	50
	Dow Chemical Canada Inc.	Fort Saskatchewan	1989 - 1993	800
	Du Pont Canada	Gibbons	1989 - 1991	120
	Neste Oy/Petro-Canada Inc.	Strathcona County	1990 - 1991	300
	Novacor Chemicals Ltd. (two projects)	Joffre	1989 - 1992	700
	Shell Canada Limited	Scotford	tba - tba	400
	Sherritt Gordon Limited	Fort Saskatchewan	1990 - 1995	140
Pipelines	"Arctic Gas Pipeline Proposal"	Alberta/N.W.T.	1993 - 1996	5,900
	"Arctic Oil Pipeline Proposal"	Alberta/N.W.T.	tba - tba	3,000
	Interprovincial Pipe Line Company	Canada/U.S.A.	1990 - 1992	830
	NOVA Corporation of Alberta	Alberta	1989 - 1993	1,000
	TransMountain Pipe Line Company Ltd.	Alberta/B.C.	1988 - 1990	90
	TransMountain Pipe Line Company Ltd.	Alberta/B.C.	tba - tba	400
Transportation, Communications & Utilities	Alberta Government Telephones	Rural Alberta	1986 - 1991	264
	City of Edmonton - LRT	Edmonton	1988 - 1992	143
	Edmonton Power	Genesee	1982 - 1991	1,300
	Government of Alberta	Peace River	1988 - 1991	75

* Projects valued at $50 million or more.
tba - To be announced.

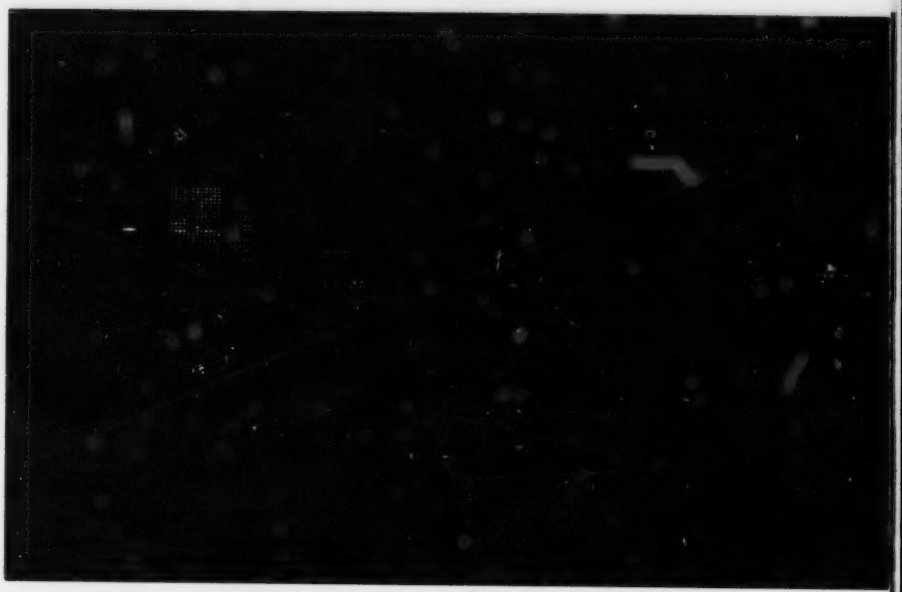
Source: Alberta Economic Development and Trade
Edmonton Power
Informetrica Ltd.

CORPORATE

Office space absorption in 1988 provides evidence of the continuing corporate development occurring in the Metro Edmonton region.

Numerous private sector corporate offices are located in the city. As well, being the capital of the province, Edmonton is the location of most provincial and federal government offices and international consulates.

Over the past five years, Edmonton has experienced considerable corporate growth which is reflected in the city's skyline. Head office locations for forestry, construction, transportation, mining, energy, communications, utilities, distribution, and food processing industries attest to the diversity of Edmonton's economy.



Edmonton is the head office location of a number of major Canadian corporations.

Table 5
Edmonton Central Business District Office Space 1984 – 1988
(square metres/ square feet)

Year	Completed	Supply (Inc. previous year's surplus)	Absorption	Cumulative Surplus	% Absorbed
1984	0	160,067	42,455	117,611	
	0	**1,723,000**	**457,000**	**1,266,000**	26.5
1985	41,805	159,416	82,681	76,735	
	450,000	**1,716,000**	**890,000**	**826,000**	51.9
1986	21,367	97,452	28,985	68,467	
	230,000	**1,049,000**	**312,000**	**737,000**	29.7
1987	0	68,467	17,558	50,909	
	0	**737,000**	**189,000**	**548,000**	25.6
1988	74,320	125,229	85,189	40,040	
	800,000	**1,348,000**	**917,000**	**431,000**	68.0

Source: Graeme Young & Associates – The Alberta Real Estate Report, First Quarter 1989

Table 6
Edmonton Suburban Office Space 1984 – 1988
(square metres/ square feet)

Year	Completed	Supply (Inc. previous year's surplus)	Absorption	Cumulative Surplus	% Absorbed
1984	5,295	75,992	20,903	55,090	
	57,000	**818,000**	**225,000**	**593,000**	27.5
1985	0	55,090	16,072	39,018	
	0	**593,000**	**173,000**	**420,000**	29.2
1986	5,574	44,592	16,165	28,427	
	60,000	**480,000**	**174,000**	**306,000**	36.3
1987	743	29,171	5,295	23,875	
	8,000	**314,000**	**57,000**	**257,000**	18.2
1988	1,022	24,897	9,569	15,329	
	11,000	**268,000**	**103,000**	**165,000**	38.4

Source: Graeme Young & Associates – The Alberta Real Estate Report, First Quarter 1989

In 1988, 74% of Metro Edmonton's population was under the age of 45.

POPULATION

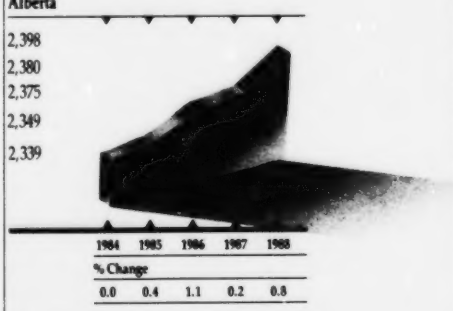
As the strategic centre of extensive resource-based industries, Edmonton is one of Canada's most affluent and growing population centres. Metro Edmonton's population has increased at an average rate of close to 1% per year over the past five years.

In 1988, 74% of Metro Edmonton's population was under the age of 45, with 37% of the total population between 25 and 45 years of age.

Total personal income has been rising at an average annual rate of 5.5% over the past five years.

Total personal income in Edmonton totalled $15.1 billion in 1988. Edmonton's share of provincial personal income was 33% in 1988. Alberta's minimum wage as of September, 1988 is $4.50 per hour for persons over 18 and $4.00 for students under 18 years of age. The weekly minimum wage for commission sales personnel is $180.

Graph 8
Population
1984 – 1988
as of June 1
(thousands)

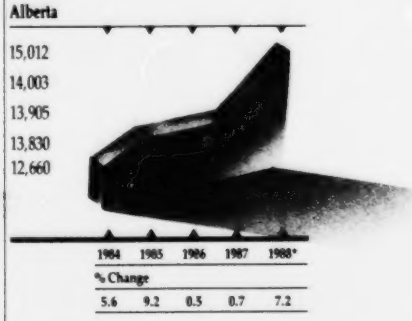


In 1988, Metro Edmonton accounted for 32% of Alberta's total population.

*Edmonton Economic Development Authority estimates

Source:
Alberta Bureau of Statistics - Alberta Statistical Review
Edmonton Metropolitan Regional Planning Commission

Graph 9
Per Capita Disposable Income
1984 – 1988
(dollars)



*Edmonton Economic Development Authority estimates

Source:
Alberta Bureau of Statistics
- Alberta Economic Accounts, 1987
- Alberta Statistical Review

Table 7
Metro Edmonton
Population by Age & Sex – 1988*

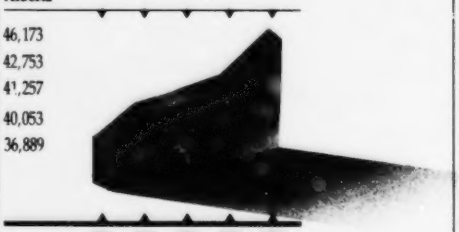
Age	Male	% of Total	Female	% of Total	Sub Total	% of Total	Cumulative Total	% Cumulative
0- 4	31,164	4.0	31,077	4.0	62,241	8.1	62,241	8.1
5-14	50,048	6.5	47,644	6.2	97,693	12.7	159,934	20.7
15-24	62,808	8.1	65,236	8.5	128,044	16.6	287,978	37.3
25-44	144,697	18.8	140,633	18.2	285,330	37.0	573,308	74.3
45-64	65,904	8.5	67,404	8.7	133,308	17.3	706,616	91.6
65 +	26,961	3.5	37,548	4.9	64,509	8.4	771,125	100.0
Total	381,583	49.5	389,542	50.5	771,125	100.0		

* Edmonton Economic Development Authority estimates

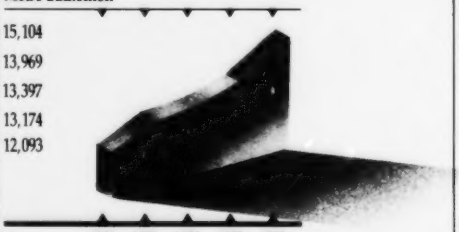
Source: City of Edmonton, Planning and Development - Edmonton Demographic Indicators 1988
Edmonton Metropolitan Regional Planning Commission

Edmontonian's disposable income is among the highest in Canada.

Graph 10
Total Personal Income
1984 – 1988
($ millions)



	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988*
% Change	4.3	8.6	3.0	3.6	8.0



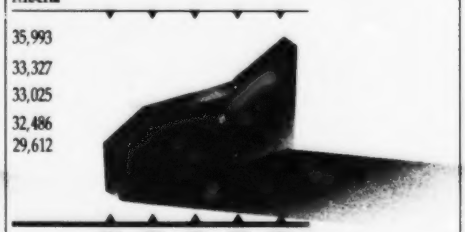
	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988
% Change	4.4	8.9	1.7	4.3	8.1

In 1988, Metro Edmonton accounted for 33% of Alberta's total personal income.

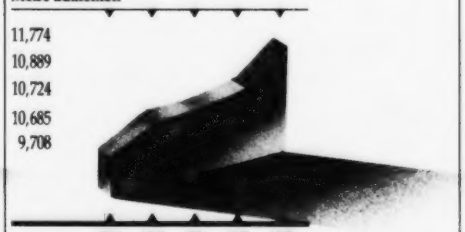
*Edmonton Economic Development Authority estimates

Source:
Alberta Bureau of Statistics
- Alberta Economic Accounts, 1987
- Alberta Statistical Review

Graph 11
Total Personal Disposable Income
1984 – 1988
($ millions)



	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988*
% Change	5.6	9.7	1.7	0.9	8.0



	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988
% Change	5.7	10.1	0.4	1.5	8.1

In 1988, Metro Edmonton accounted for more than 32% of Alberta's personal disposable income.

*Edmonton Economic Development Authority estimates

Source:
Alberta Bureau of Statistics
- Alberta Economic Accounts, 1987
- Alberta Statistical Review

Rising total personal income levels have contributed to the development of new, innovative retail and entertainment complexes like West Edmonton Mall.

LABOUR FORCE

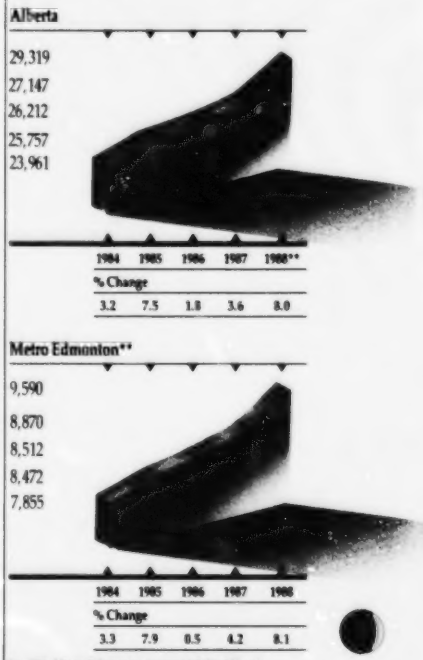
About 80% of Edmonton's population is 15 years of age or over, providing a potential labour force of more than 600,000 people. More than 67% of this population total is between the ages of 15 and 44. This is reflected in an overall labour force participation rate of 72.5%. Total Metro Edmonton wages and salaries exceeded $9.5 billion in 1988.

The University of Alberta, with an enrolment of close to 25,500 full-time students, is Canada's second largest university. It supports industry with faculties in all major disciplines at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Edmonton plays a very significant role in the education and training of skilled labour. The Alberta Career Development and Employment department consults with employers in order to design special trades training programs at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT). NAIT is one of Canada's largest polytechnical institutes with 6,700 full-time students, 6,400 apprenticeship students, and another 26,200 registrants in the continuing education program. Alberta's newest technical institute, Westerra Institute of Technology, complements NAIT and has more than 1,900 students including 225 full-time, 520 apprenticeship, and 1,200 part-time and correspondence students.

The city's Grant MacEwan Community College, with an enrollment of 20,000 full-time and part-time students spread over four city campuses, is in the process of constructing a $100 million downtown facility. Grant MacEwan College offers a variety of specialized programs.

Graph 12
Total Wages and Salaries* 1984 – 1988
($ millions)



In 1988, Metro Edmonton accounted for 33% of Alberta's wages and salaries.

*Wages and salaries include supplementary labour income

**Edmonton Economic Development Authority estimates

Source:
Alberta Bureau of Statistics
- Alberta Economic Accounts, 1987
- Alberta Statistical Review

Table 8
Metro Edmonton*
Labour Force, Employment, and Earnings
By Selected Major Sectors – 1988 Annual Average

	Labour Force	Employment	% Employment Distribution	Average Weekly Earnings
All Industries	411,683	373,583	100.0	$435.82
Agriculture & Food Producing	9,025	7,917	2.1	n/a
Forestry & Related	2,818	2,686	0.7	555.86
Petroleum & Gas	11,850	10,533	2.8	826.39**
Other Manufacturing & Processing	26,200	23,908	6.4	547.71
Construction	28,867	24,125	6.5	535.01
Transportation, Communications & Utilities	37,467	35,108	9.4	587.57
Wholesale & Retail Trade	79,517	72,767	19.5	342.51
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	21,000	19,683	5.3	443.69
Community, Business & Personal Services	152,625	139,617	37.4	373.02
Public Administration	39,183	36,533	9.8	563.50**

* Data refer to the Edmonton Census Metropolitan Area
** Average provincial earnings
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding and suppressed categories.

Source:
Statistics Canada - Labour Force Survey, 1988
- Catalogue #72-002
Alberta Bureau of Statistics - Alberta Statistical Review
Alberta Career Development and Employment

In 1988, Edmonton's labour force participation rate stood at 72%.

TRANSPORTATION

Road

Edmonton is strategically situated at the centre of several major highways. It is on the Yellowhead Highway, designated a TransCanada route in 1986, between Winnipeg and Vancouver. Some of the largest trucking firms transporting freight to and from the Pacific coast have switched to the Yellowhead Highway because of its low grades and favourable climatic conditions, which contribute to savings in fuel and time.

Provincial Highway #2 provides freeway access to central and southern Alberta, leading to the American border. Edmonton is the southern terminus for the Mackenzie Highway, the Alaska Highway, and highways serving heavy oil and tar sands operations in the North.

Air

Edmonton is served by two major commercial airports. The Edmonton International Airport, located south of the city, is a marshalling point for freight, goods, and services. Airlines provide scheduled service to all parts of North America and the world.

The Edmonton Municipal Airport, providing commuter passenger service and corporate aviation facilities, is located within the city only minutes away from the central business district.

Edmonton enjoys an average of 628 scheduled flight departures per week. Of these, 343 flights are destined for points within Alberta, 259 flights are destined for points in other provinces, and 26 flights are destined for points outside of Canada.

Edmonton's international air services were recently enhanced. The start-up of nonstop service between the city and Tokyo, Japan provides excellent access to growing business markets in the Pacific Rim. The arrival of Cargolux Airlines International, one of the world's largest international freight carriers, provides Edmonton area firms with a major advantage in reaching European markets.

Other airport facilities in the Edmonton area include: Canadian Forces Base Edmonton, located at Namao; a training and recreational airport at Villeneuve; and a float/ski airport at Cooking Lake.

Rail

Both Canadian National (CN) and Canadian Pacific (CP) Railways provide comprehensive rail service to the Edmonton region. CN's mainline passes through Edmonton while CP Rail routes freight between Edmonton and its mainline through Calgary.

VIA Rail provides east and west passenger service through Edmonton.

Pipelines

Edmonton is the hub of western Canada's pipeline transportation system. Major oil refineries and petrochemical plants are served by numerous pipeline networks. The rapid development of oil exploration and production, including the Alberta oil sands, have kept pipeline construction active. Alberta's first synthetic crude oil pipeline from the Fort McMurray area terminates in Edmonton.

Water

Alberta's road, rail, and air transportation systems give the city access to the Pacific and Arctic Oceans, Great Slave Lake, and the Mackenzie River.

The Mackenzie River system is a major transportation corridor for the distribution of equipment and goods to communities in the Northwest Territories.

Intermodal

The growth in containerization for international trade is well supported by the intermodal services provided in Edmonton. Alberta Intermodal Services Ltd. provides direct container service between Edmonton and Vancouver. Door-to-door containerization shipments are being handled through CP's intermodal facility in south Edmonton. International marine containers are becoming common in Edmonton as local businesses expand their involvement in international trade.

In 1989, Cargolux, one of the world's largest international air freight carriers, selected Edmonton as its operational headquarters for all Canadian activities west of Ontario.

GOVERNMENT

Edmonton is governed at the municipal level by an elected mayor and city council. The municipal government has jurisdiction over urban affairs such as city planning, transportation, and police and fire protection. Revenue is provided by property and business taxes, provincial grants, and City-owned utilities: telephones, power, sewer, water, and sanitation.

The city has an AA credit rating and a yearly capital and operating budget approaching $1.6 billion.

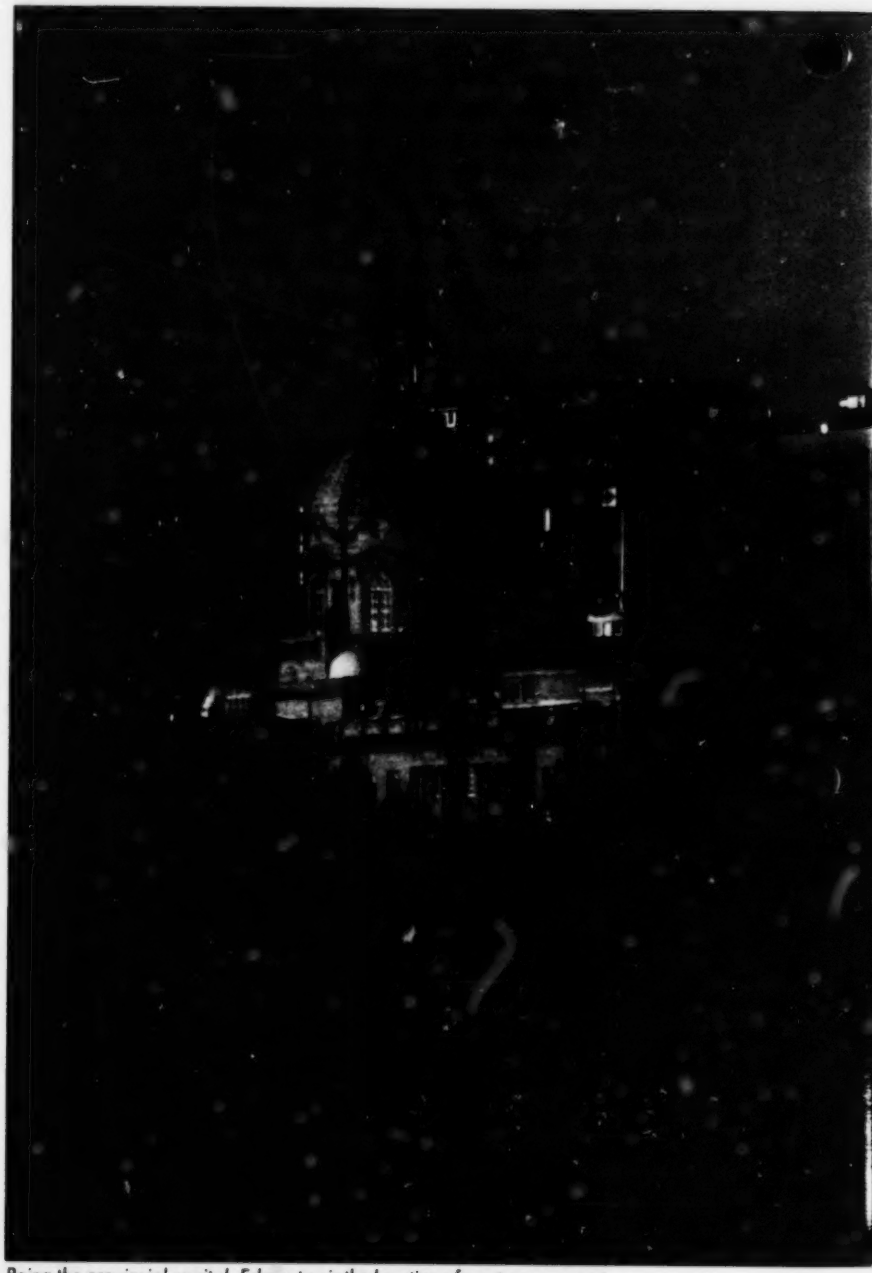
Edmonton, being the provincial capital, is the location of the Alberta Legislature and most of the government's central offices.

The provincial government is headed by a premier with a cabinet chosen from among the elected members of the ruling party in the 83-seat legislative assembly.

The province has legislative authority over municipal affairs, education, labour matters, social services, and property and civil rights within its borders.

Alberta does not have a retail sales tax. Oil and gas revenues collected by the province have enabled the government to forego such a tax. Instead, budgetary needs are supplemented with income from the Heritage Trust Fund - a $12.5 billion investment portfolio being preserved for the use of future generations. The provincial budget in 1988-89 was $10.6 billion.

Canada's federal government is led by a prime minister and a cabinet appointed from the ruling party elected in the 295-seat Parliament. The federal government's responsibilities are related to interprovincial and international matters. Its revenue sources include personal and corporate income taxes and excise tax.



Being the provincial capital, Edmonton is the location of most government services.

QUALITY OF LIFE

History

Edmonton's history dates back to the late 1700s, when fur traders settled along the banks of the North Saskatchewan River where the city is now located. During the 1800s, Fort Edmonton changed from a fur trading centre to an agricultural community. In 1892, Edmonton was incorporated as a town. In 1898, it became the supply and transportation centre for prospectors trekking the overland route to the Klondike goldfields.

The town continued to grow and prosper as the gold rush was followed by the great land rush which swept across the prairies in the early 1900s. In 1904, Edmonton became a city and the following year it was selected as the capital city for the new province of Alberta. The 1920s added another romantic chapter to Edmonton's history. Bush pilots based in the city became famous as pioneers in the aviation industry, establishing Edmonton as a centre for modern transportation and trade. Today, Canada's Aviation Hall of Fame is located in Edmonton.

In 1947, the discovery of oil at nearby Leduc ushered in a new industrial era which broadened Edmonton's economic base. The years that followed brought increased activities in mining, manufacturing, commercial ventures, construction, and service industries. Today, Edmonton assumes an important role in western Canadian decision-making and the outlook for the future remains bright.

Climate

Edmonton has four distinct seasons. Summers are warm, with daytime temperatures averaging 22°C (72°F) and evening temperatures cooling to a pleasant 11°C (52°F). The warm months provide excellent weather for hiking, cycling, trail riding, golf, tennis, and camping.

Winters are characterized by blue skies, low humidity, and little wind. The coldest month is January, with the average high temperature being −11°C (12°F) and the average low being −19°C (0°F). The average annual snowfall of 135 cm (53 in) is appreciated by winter sport enthusiasts.

The North Saskatchewan River, which runs through the centre of Edmonton, provides residents with unlimited recreational opportunities.

Education

Edmonton offers its residents excellent educational facilities with a broad choice of schooling for all needs. An open boundary policy and a variety of programs allow pupils and parents to select educational options in keeping with individual preferences. Special facilities include parochial schools as well as schools for the handicapped and for children with learning disabilities.

The University of Alberta, Canada's second largest university, has 19 faculties, including science, engineering, medicine, and business and offers programs at the bachelors, masters, and doctoral levels. Additional post-secondary institutions include: Concordia Lutheran College; The King's College; Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, offering 63 programs; Westerra Institute of Technology; Athabasca University, with unique correspondence degree programs; and Grant MacEwan Community College, with four city campuses.

The University of Alberta, Canada's second largest university, is located in Edmonton.

Housing

Edmonton's quality of life is enhanced by very affordable housing prices which are among the lowest of any major Canadian city. The recent acceleration in construction of single family dwellings, duplexes, condominiums, and apartments ensures a good supply of the finest in housing and is another indicator of the economic confidence which is prevalent in Edmonton.

Health Services

Edmonton's excellent health services include approximately 4,000 adult beds in seven active-treatment hospitals served by approximately 1,500 medical doctors. A complete range of health services is also offered by the Edmonton Board of Health through 11 community-based centres.

The University's Walter C. Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre, a $450 million medical complex, opened in 1982 and provides patient care services as well as research and teaching facilities. Western Canada's first heart transplant operation took place at the Centre. The new $120 million Grey Nuns Hospital in Millwoods opened in May, 1988 and planning for the Northern Alberta Children's Hospital is underway.

Edmonton's network of community and family services offers the highest quality care for citizens of all ages from nationally recognized day care and out-of-school care programs to home care and other facilities for senior citizens. For people needing special care, Edmonton has over 600 agencies working actively to ensure that the unique and individual needs of their clients are met.

Recreation

Edmonton has been declared a Green Survival City by the North American Association of Nurserymen. Capital City Recreation Park extends along the river valley for 16 km (10 mi), offering 55 km (33 mi) of hiking, biking, and skiing trails. Along the river valley are numerous golf courses, boat launches, and picnic sites.

Available for public use are numerous hockey rinks, golf courses, curling rinks, swimming centres, and tennis facilities. A 61,000-seat stadium, a velodrome, an indoor fieldhouse, a shooting range, and numerous picnic grounds are also available.

In addition to these facilities, Edmonton is close to Elk Island National Park and the famous Jasper and Banff National Parks are within easy driving distance. Within 160 km (100 mi) of Edmonton are more than 50 lakes available for recreational use.

Sports

Edmonton has numerous sport and recreational participation programs. Its unique community league system ensures local residents every opportunity to become involved. In professional sports, the city is home to the Edmonton Eskimos of the Canadian Football League; the Edmonton Oilers of the National Hockey League; and the Trappers of the Pacific Coast Baseball League. Edmonton's Northlands Coliseum, with a seating capacity of 18,000, is the site of major sports and cultural productions.

Culture

Edmonton is growing, and this growth is reflected in the city's cultural and entertainment facilities. Live theatre companies in the city include the acclaimed Citadel. Edmonton has more professional theatre companies per capita than any other city in Canada. The Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium is home to the Alberta Ballet Company, the Edmonton Opera Association, and the Edmonton Symphony.

There are numerous public and private museums and art galleries in the city. The Edmonton Public Library operates 12 neighbourhood branches.

More than 500 restaurants offer a full range of dining experiences. Edmonton's night spots provide for every taste.

Edmonton's world famous Klondike Days provides Edmontonians and visitors a chance to relive the city's early gold rush days.

Shopping

Edmontonians enjoy climate-controlled shopping facilities in numerous malls throughout the metro area. In the downtown area, an expanding system of underground and skywalk pedways link major shopping complexes, office buildings, hotels, and the underground stations of Edmonton's LRT. West Edmonton Mall, the world's largest entertainment and retail complex with over 800 stores under one roof, is located in Edmonton.

Convention Facilities

Edmonton offers world-class convention facilities. The Edmonton Convention Centre, situated on the bank of the North Saskatchewan River, can accommodate delegations of up to 5,000 people. Trade fairs and exhibitions are also held in the Northlands AgriCom, western Canada's largest trade show complex. The city's many hotels provide a wide selection of accommodation.

City Celebrations

Edmontonians devote a lot of energy to recreation and entertainment. Numerous major celebrations are staged throughout the year, confirming Edmonton's status as Canada's Festival City.

In the latter half of July, Edmonton returns to the colourful era of the early gold rush days. Klondike Days provides residents and visitors a chance to pan for gold at the Chilkoot Mine, enjoy a midway and exhibition, thoroughbred racing, and all kinds of special entertainment. The festivities are highlighted by the "World Championship Sourdough Raft Race," the King of Klondike competition, a Band Extravaganza, and a complete dress-up party downtown.

Other celebrations include: Summerfest, a series of entertainment events featuring performances in music, dance, theatre, and visual arts; Jazz City, an international music festival which has gained world stature; the Fringe Theatre Event, a multi-location theatrical showcase; the Edmonton Folk Festival; The Works, a visual arts celebration; and the Edmonton Heritage Festival.

In winter, Edmonton festivals include: Downtown - A Christmas Tradition; Festival of Trees; and a galla First Night Festival.

No matter what the season, Edmonton offers tourists and residents alike many opportunities to join in and celebrate Edmonton's vitality.

Media

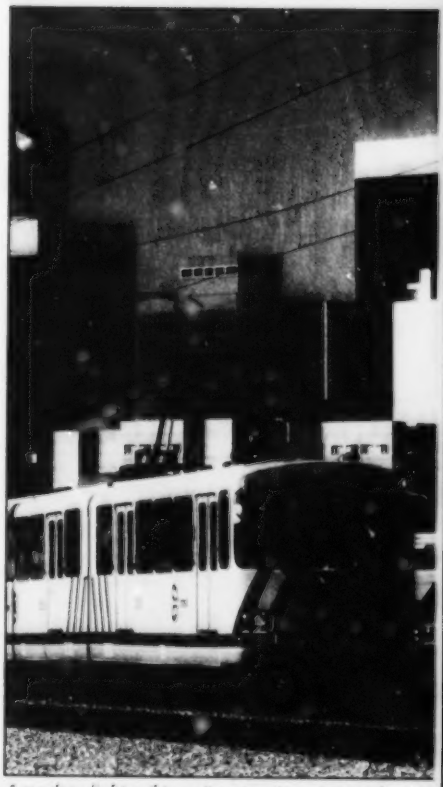
Edmonton has four local TV stations. Two cable television companies supplement this service with local programming, specialty channels, and programming from the major American networks. Pay TV is also available through the cable companies.

Edmonton's 19 radio stations span the entire spectrum of broadcasting formats.

Two daily newspapers are augmented by numerous ethnic and community weekly newspapers and a weekly news magazine.

Public Transportation

Edmonton has one of the most innovative transit systems in Canada. In 1978, Edmonton became the first city of its size in North America to have a LRT system. Handicapped citizens have their own door-to-door transportation system.



A modern light rail transit system is an integral part of Edmonton's efficient public transportation network.

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Office:

9797 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton Convention Centre
Edmonton, Alberta
Canada T5J 1N9
Telephone: (403) 424-7870
FAX: (403) 426-0535
Toll Free: 1-800-661-6965

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